

PENINSULA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION PROGRESS REPORT

SUMMARY: This Progress Report reviews Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization (PRTPO) activities and accomplishments as outlined in the Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWP), from July 2001 to June 2002. This report will assist in the development of the FY 2003-2004 UPWP. The PRTPO delivers the following program with support from the member agencies and jurisdictions, Olympic Region WSDOT, and the consultant services of Mike Pawlak, Bucher Willis and Ratliff Inc. (BWR). PRTPO members include Kitsap, Jefferson, Mason, and Clallam counties, cities, ports, tribes, transit agencies, and major employers. Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Olympic Region, serves as the lead agency for the Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization. PRTPO funding, approximately \$90,000 per fiscal year, allows for approximately 0.6 full time employee at WSDOT, Mike Pawlak of Bucher Willis and Ratliff's consultant services for staff support, and administrative costs.

WORK PROGRAM EFFORTS: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A. COMMITTEE SUPPORT

Throughout the work program there will be the need for coordination and management of the transportation and planning activities of the PRTPO and support to the various committees. The WSDOT's Olympic Region Transportation Planning Office and Bucher, Willis and Ratliff's Mike Pawlak's consultant services provide committee support for the activities outlined in this report.

Committee Support Products:

- In June 2001, Peninsula RTPO staff created the annual consultant Task Authorization Document (TAD) for Work Program Year 2002. WSDOT manages the consultant agreement. The consultant agreement was approved in July 2001.
- Conducted an annual regional bus tour that enables members to view unique transportation problems and challenges of a neighboring jurisdiction. This year's tour was a special event sponsored by Kitsap County. A presentation and tour of the Hood Canal Bridge was hosted on June 7, 2002. Participants included several legislative representatives; Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap and Mason County representatives; Jefferson, Kitsap and Clallam Transit agencies; the cities of Port Angeles, Port Townsend, Shelton and Sequim; the Ports of Port Townsend and Port Angeles, and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, a representative from Port Townsend Paper Company, several senior executives from WSDOT,

representatives from the Washington State Transportation Commission, FHWA, and several members from the news media.

- ♦ On February 8, 2002, The Executive Council and Policy Board (EC/PB) approved the January 02-June 2003 PRTPO meeting schedule. Scheduling includes securing speakers and other administrative tasks as outlined under meeting management.
- ♦ Committee support involves the administrative support of Executive Council / Policy Board meetings, Technical Advisory Committee meetings, and Sub Committee meetings. Each year WSDOT and Mike Pawlak, Bucher, Willis and Ratliff, provides support for up to ten meetings, including 5 EC/PB meetings, 4 TAC meetings, one TAC Management Meeting.

B. PUBLIC INFORMATION

Public participation will focus on updating the general public as to the status of the RTP and its implementation. The responsibilities for public participation will be shared between WSDOT, and the PRTPO member jurisdictions.

- ♦ Creating and distributing media notices informing of when and where Peninsula RTPO meetings and events will be held.

Public Information Products:

- ♦ September 14, 2001, EC/PB Meeting
- ♦ November 16, 2001, EC/PB Meeting
- ♦ February 8, 2002, EC/PB Meeting
- ♦ April 19, 2002, EC/PB Meeting
- ♦ June 7, 2002, EC/PB Meeting & Hood Canal Bridge Legislative Tour
- ♦ Developed a media packet for the Hood Canal Bridge Legislative Tour
- ♦ Updated the Peninsula RTPO informational brochure

C. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

The RTP process continues to evolve and strives to improve upon itself to ensure coordination of planning and implementation by all transportation interests. The RTP is reviewed each year and updated as appropriate.

- ♦ **Electronic Conversion:**

The RTP is currently available in a hard copy format only. The PRTPO will convert into an electronic format all of those RTP elements not otherwise programmed for updating in 2002.

Electronic Conversion Products:

- ♦ As of May 2002, all written text elements of the RTP have been converted into an electronic baseline database.
 - ♦ The graphic and mapping portions of the conversion is currently in progress to be completed during the Work Program Year 2003.
- ♦ **Roads/LOS Element:**

The Roads Chapter of the RTP is currently being updated with the consultant as lead.
 - ♦ **Land Use:**

The Land Use Committee has met three times over the last year and is in the process of updating the Land Use Chapter of the RTP. They have conducted a review of the current chapter and have completed the Land Use data for GIS purposes.

Land Use Products:

- ♦ Established a Land Use Committee and selected Rich James as Committee Chair
- ♦ Held 3 committee meetings to review the current chapter. Currently the committee is in the process of gathering updated land use information from each jurisdiction to update the Land Use Chapter.

D. FINANCE ELEMENT:

A Finance Subcommittee was formed. Rod Fleck was appointed as the committee chair. The committee will establish the purpose and schedule for updating the Finance Element of the RTP.

E. REGIONAL/STATE/LOCAL PLAN COORDINATION

The Washington State GMA and RCW 47.80 require that regional and local comprehensive plans be consistent. In addition,, the PRTPO is required to perform a certification review of local transportation plan elements.

Consistency Review Process for Local/County Comprehensive Plans:

Began the early framework of establishing a subcommittee to review the Consistency and Certification process. The committee will begin work in the program year 2003. Conducted pre-meeting and selected Brad Collins as the committee chair.

Presentations to the Washington State Transportation Commission

The PRTPO has gained considerable benefit from its previous efforts to advise the Washington State Transportation Commission of its accomplishments, future actions and benefits to the public and the jurisdictions on the Olympic and Kitsap Peninsulas

F. MONITORING/DATA PROGRAM

Monitoring the performance of the program is integral to the success of the Plan. In addition, the GMA requires that RTPOs review their regional plans every two years. The PRTPO must determine how well the plan is being implemented and whether the system improvements and /or applied system demand strategies are having the desired effect.

Monitoring/Data Program Products:

- ♦ The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Program Year 2003, was developed and approved by the Executive Council at the February 2002, EC/PB meeting.
- ♦ Approved UPWP was submitted to WSDOT in April of 2002.
- ♦ The Annual Report from July 2001 through June 2002, was completed in late July and submitted to WSDOT.

G. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

In 1996, the PRTPO recognized that the Plan was nearing completion and that it was time to initiate the implementation of those identified goals and strategies. This task section identifies those projects and programs which have regional significance and which can be implemented.

- ♦ **Hood Canal Bridge:**
The Peninsula RTPO has recognized that the capacity and structural integrity of the Hood Canal Bridge on SR 104 is an important issue with statewide as well as regional significance.

Hood Canal Bridge Products:

- ♦ The Hood Canal Bridge project is identified as the Peninsula RTPO's number one priority project.
- ♦ September 2001, established 3 sub-committees (medical, transit and the Port Townsend sub-groups) to work with WSDOT to develop mitigation for a group of actions that respond to temporary impacts resulting from the construction related bridge closure. The committees consisted of PRTPO staff

and members. Committee members participated in the development of the closure mitigation plan.

- ♦ In January of 2002, all three committees met to recommend mitigation options that WSDOT should pursue in the mitigation plan.
- ♦ The Executive Council approved the subcommittee's recommended mitigation options on February 8, 2002.
- ♦ Committees began prep work with WSDOT on medical, transit, and rideshare elements of the mitigation plan to be completed in the program year 2003.
- ♦ The PRTPO hosted a legislative tour of the Hood Canal Bridge on June 7, 2002. The tour featured three PowerPoint presentations and a walking tour of the bridge. Fifty people participated in the tour including 3 congressional staff members, 5 state legislators and 2 Transportation Commission members.
- ♦ **Major Transportation Investments**
One of the primary functions of the PRTPO is to identify, support and implement major and important transportation strategies and facilities development. The PRTPO will continued to identify those major investments and act to create regional support for the implementation of such projects.

Major Transportation Investments Products:

- ♦ On September 2001, the Executive Council and Policy Board approved the Peninsula RTPO's Revised Regionally Significant Road List.
- ♦ **Peninsula RTPO Action Program**
The Action Program, developed during Program Year 2000, included a number of priority issues on which the Peninsula RTPO membership would work to find solutions.
- ♦ Endangered Species Act (ESA) Education Efforts:
A Subcommittee was formed to research the various issues surrounding ESA, evaluate potential programs or processes that might facilitate projects.

ESA PRODUCTS:

- ♦ On August 9, 2001, the ESA Subcommittee met with Mike Horton of WSDOT's Highways and Local Programs Region office and Al King a representative from the division's Headquarters office. They discussed the latest status and direction on ESA issues.
- ♦ The Title VI Environmental Justice Survey for Planning Organizations was completed in November of 2001.

- ♦ In November 2001, WSDOT's Environmental Director, Jerry Alb presented a briefing on Environmental Streamlining to the EC/PB.
- ♦ Important Programmed Improvements:
The member jurisdictions of the Peninsula RTPO have assisted in the preparation of the Six-Year Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (RTIP) and a long range Transportation Improvement Plan.

STIP PRODUCTS:

- ♦ A new Peninsula RTPO STIP and RTIP process was implemented which developed increased coordination between WSDOT Planning, Highways and Local Programs and local jurisdiction staff.
- ♦ Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) AND Peninsula RTPO Submittal to the STIP: Peninsula RTPO staff created the draft on September 2001. The Regional TIP identifies all secured federally funded projects for a three-year period for inclusion in the State TIP, and also identifies regionally significant planned projects. PRTPO staff prepares amendments as needed. The Executive Council and Policy board approved the final RTIP in November 2001.

Coordination with Other State Priorities:

There are a number of local, regional and state priorities which affect and impact regional transportation issues. It is essential that these other priorities be identified and analyzed to determine the actual effects to the goals and priorities of the Peninsula RTPO.

PRODUCTS:

- ♦ In April 2002, Wendy Clark-Getzin from Kitsap Transit was appointed to be the new Coordinating Council representative. Ms. Clark-Getzin replaces retiring John Law from the Bremerton City Council. Wendy and PRTPO staff participated all meetings of the MPO/RTPO/WSDOT Coordinating Council.
- ♦ In February 2002, Representatives from Olympic National Park gave a presentation to the Executive Council and Policy Board Committees on the newly released draft General Management Plan
- ♦ WSDOT LIASON (Transportation Improvement Board (TIB); Highways and Local Programs; WSDOT Olympia Service Center Planning, Olympic Region): PRTPO staff provide a two-way link between the PRTPO members and several offices, providing feed back, information, and/or references as needed. Staff represents the PRTPO at a variety of events and meetings.

- Peninsula RTPPO liaison to Washington State Legislature: PRTPO staff exchanges information with Legislative staff and members.
- WSDOT Highway System Plan coordination: coordinated that local/regional and state projects were included in the Systems Plan update published in February of 2002 (for years 2003-2022).
- HB 1487 updates (LOS bill).
- Continued coordination with Washington's newest National Scenic Byway, The Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway-SR 112.
- In April of 2002, Dennis Engel, TNB Project Office gave a presentation on the second Tacoma Narrows Bridge project to the EC/PB Committee.
- A rural airports and critical economic area studies update was given by Theresa Smith, WSDOT Aviation in November 2001.
- WSDOT Olympic Region Capital Improvement and Preservation Program (CIPP) presentation was given by Randy Dunn, Program Manager to the EC/PB committee in November of 2001.
- Legislative representatives and Washington Transportation Commission representatives attended and gave short updates or presentations at several EC/PB Committee meetings.
- Concluded support and coordination on the Washington State Transportation Plan (WTP). Provided framework for the Peninsula RTPPO Regional input to Regional Chapter and also ensured tribal, local/regional and state projects in the 4 county area were included in the database. The plan was adopted/published in February 2002, (covering years 2003-2022).

Grant Programs:

Continued emphasis will be placed on assisting local jurisdictions with identifying potential grant funding opportunities. Grant Program Management: PRTPO staff distributes grant information. The PRTPO Enhancement Grant subcommittee and staff create regional criteria, rank projects, and award regional grant money.

GRANT PROGRAMS PRODUCTS:

- Vicki Cummings gave a presentation on the availability of transportation grants and resources to the EC/PB Committees in February of 2002.

Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) Regional Participation

The purpose of the WTP update is to integrate and coordinate all modes of transportation in the statewide planning effort.

WTP PRODUCTS:

- WTP participation, Regional Needs Identification, and development of the Region Section of WTP submittal for 2003-2022, and public comment on final draft.

FY 2002 FINANCIAL DATA

Work Elements	FY 02 Allocations	FY 02 Expenditures	YTD Percent
Project Management/ Organizational Support	\$10,704	\$10,704	100%
Committee Support	\$23,096	\$23,096	100%
Public Information	\$0	\$0	100%
Expanding/Updating the RTP			
RTP Electronic Conversion	\$3,200	\$2,080	65%
Roads	\$11,308	\$9,658	85%
Land Use	\$0	\$0	100%
Finance Element	\$7,004	\$4,500	64%
Regional/State/Local Plan Coordination	\$3,024	\$3,024	100%
Monitoring Data Program	\$5,352	\$5,352	100%
Program Implementation	\$15,020	\$15,020	100%
PRTPO Action Program	\$11,100	\$11,100	100%
TOTAL:	\$89,808	\$84,534	94%